(b) whether a US National Intelligence Council study conducted for the CIA states that by 2010 the growth of AIDS will outstrip the spread in all other countries; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to control the spread of AIDS in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, Government of India has launched a comprehensive Programme, currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme with the following components:—

- Reducing the spread of HIV in groups at high risk by identification of target populations and providing peer counselling, condom promotion and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.
- Preventive intervention for the general population by Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness campaign, provision of voluntary testing and counselling, safe blood transfusion services and prevention of occupational exposure.
- Providing financial assistance for opportunistic infections, home and community based care.
- Strengthening effectiveness and technical, managerial and financial sustainability at national, State and Municipal levels.
- Promoting collaboration amongst public, private and voluntary sectors.

Evening OPD in hospitals in Delhi

†497. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a scheme to start evening OPD in four major hospitals in Delhi;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have made any arrangement so that the patients may not face any inconvenience in case of electricity failure?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Inclusion of Diabetic Medicines in the Life Saving Category

†498. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to include the medicines and equipments required for the treatment of diabetes into life saving category in the new National Health Policy keeping in view the fear of incidents of diseases like heart disease, kidney failure, blood pressure, infection, blindness and sex problem in most of the diabetic patients in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) and (b) The National Health Policy 2002 emphasizes the need for basing treatment regimens in both the public and private domain, on a limited number of essential drugs of a generic nature. It has also emphasized that the list of essential drugs would have to be reviewed periodically.

Health Risk by Genetically Modified Crops

†499. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many genetically modified crops that are being produced which may carry health risk;

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.